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10 ECMA \_4/864\_ MENCRANDUM CAM 28-59 Citi Sweden. SUBJECT: (Professor)Hile DATE: 21 Apr 1959 1 Sep 1917 Karlskrone, Sweden MICROFILMED FEB 2 6 1962 areditvagen of Brookholm Beste Park Sweden DOC. MICRO. SER. Reference is made to the attached request from Headquarters Please transmit the following to Headquarters and to

Under a suitable pretext, I have interviewed MoKinney RUSSELL regarding the contact made by RUSSELL and Victor FRANK with Professor Nils Ake KILSSON, Director of the Bussian Institute of the University of Stockholm. As indicated, the contacts occured during a field FTLP to Stockholm by RUSSELL and FRANK from 8 to 11 December 1958. RUSSELL and FRANK were sent by Radio Liberation to cover the Robel awards. It is my feeling that RUSSELL is the more discreet of the two, and further that he would be a more objective observer. Accordingly Victor PRANK was not interviewed. Re: Contacts made with Radio Libraria

It was recalled that the original conjuct with Professor NILSSON was It was recalled that the original compact with Processor willow through a personal friend of RUSSELL's, but that RUSSELL and PRANK actually approached Professor FILSSOF cold since they received no formal introduction to him. After contacting him, they met him for lunch on 9 December 1958 and subsequently visited his office on 11 December 1958. RUSSELL states that they wanted to interview Professor HILSSOF regarding the award to Boris PASTERMAK, since, during a recent visit to the Soviet Union, HILSSOF had interviewed PASTERNAK. The detailed account of MILSSON's conversation with PASTERNAK was published in an article written for the magazine, RLM (Bonniers Literariska Magazin), in Stockholm. In addition to the details set forth in the article, PASTERNAK had commented upon the freedom afforded writers in the Soviet Union. In this connection, PASTERMAN said to MILSSON that the Communists in the Soviet Union very often prevent writers from saying what they want to say. Then, turning to NILSSON, he asked, "Excuse me, Professor, but you're not a Communist are you?" RUSSELL interpreted this remark as indicative of the fact that Professor HILSSON is not, in fact, a Communist and he cited it as a remark which NILSSON would hardly make if he were not in sympathy with PASTERNAK's philosophy regarding the freedom of writers in the Soviet Union.

Professor EILSOE recently wrote a book entitled <u>Ibsen in Russia</u>, which was written and published in German. For purposes of researching this book, EILSOE went to the Soviet Union in 1956. At that time not only did he receive a visa to enter the Soviet Union but HILSSON recalled that every facility was placed at his disposal. He indicated surprise to RUSSELL that such was the case in view of the fact that he felt all of his public statements and writings had indicated that he has turned his back on the Soviets. In addition, RUSSELL state; that one of Professor HILSSON's employees at the Russian Institute is Bruno KALNINS, former General Secretary of the Latvian Social Democratic Party. KALNINS was described by RUSSELL as one of the most anti-Soviet leaders of the Baltin amigration in Sweden. He is in charge of the library at the Russian Institute and RUSSELL pointed out that he would be quite surprised if anyone of the ideological orientation of KALNIMS would work for a so-called fellow traveller or Soviet sympathiser. He felt that this was further evidence that RILSSON had in fact, changed his opinions regarding the Soviets. In addition, BUSSELL points out that the post as Director of the Russian Institute for the University of Stockholm is a government post and he felt that HILSSON would not be allowed to remain in this post were his sympathies known to lie with the Soviets.

RUSSELL continued by advising that not too much was known regarding the temic background of Professor Michaely lie is however a Docunt, the

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CAM 28-59 Hile Ake HILSSON Page 2

equivalent of an Assistant or Associate Professor, married, and it is believed that he has no children. Since the initial contacts in Stockholm, the "informal exchange of information and materials" has consisted primarily in the fact that Victor FRANK has forwarded to Professor MILSSON some unpublished poems of PASTERMAK, while MILSSON has forwarded to McKinney RUSSELL some material he had on TSCHMISCRWILI, the Georgian writer. It is not anticipated that there will be any continued regular contact between these individuals in the future.

Summing up, RUSSELL advised that in his opinion, HILS30F possessed a very favorable attitude toward the United States. He was well aware that RUSSELL and FRANK represented Radio Liberation and that Radio Liberation, although a privately sponsored organisation, was an American organisation and as such, interested in promoting the American way of life and desirous of pointing out to Soviet listeners some of the distortions of the Soviet system. In spite of this fact, not only was Professor HILS30F personally cordial but he indicated in other ways to RUSSELL and to FRANK that his sympathies lay with the West.

Another incident, substantiating this, was recounted by RUSSELL. He states that at the actual Mobel award ceremony he met Heinrich BIRNAUM, son of Emmanuel BIRNBAUM, who is the editor of the "Sueddeutscher Zeitung". Prior to World War II, the BIRNBAUMS had gone to Sweden and after the war, Emmanuel BIRNBAUM had returned to Munich where he now edits the newspaper. His son, Heinrich, however, has remained in Sweden and has married a Swedish girl. His wife works for Professor WILSSOW and, in addition, Heinrich BIRNBAUM has studied under and associated both professionally and socially with Professor WILSSOW. In commenting on the professor, Heinrich BIRNBAUM, who has the reputation of being anti-Communist, told RUSSELL that Professor HILSSOW is "one of the few really top people in Swedish academic life today". He advised RUSSELL that the Swedish people needed many more such individuals in the formulating of the character and the thinking of the youth of the country.

It was not possible to question RUSSELL further regarding specific details of MILSSON's attitude toward the United States government. In all of his comments, however, RUSSELL was emphatic in stating that Professor WILSSON was not only personally cordial but ideologically seemed to be completely in tune with the West. In addition, as stated above, he expressed surprise that the Soviets continued to treat him with cordiality although he had, in his own admission, turned his back on them.

-end-

Please note that the comments made above by RUSSELL regarding Professor KALMINS are reported as such. His estimate of KALMINS does not, however, seem to agree with that of Headquarters which has disapproved KALMINS for contact.

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